

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 1877

96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES SOMMER (Sponsor), KELLEY (126),
PARKINSON, JONES (89), LICHTENEGGER, BURLISON AND CAUTHORN (Co-sponsors).

5864L.02I

D. ADAM CRUMBLISS, Chief Clerk

AN ACT

To amend chapter 208, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to a prohibition on use of public assistance benefits for gambling.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 208, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 208.031, to read as follows:

208.031. 1. Electronic benefit transfer transactions made by each applicant or recipient who is otherwise eligible for temporary assistance for needy families benefits under this chapter and who is found to have made a cash withdrawal at any casino, gambling casino, or gaming establishment shall, after an administrative hearing conducted by the department under the provisions of chapter 536, be declared ineligible for temporary assistance for needy families benefits for a period of three years from the date of the administrative hearing decision. For purposes of this section, "casino, gambling casino, or gaming establishment" does not include a grocery store which sells groceries including such staple foods and which also offers, or is located within the same building or complex as, casino, gambling, or gaming activities.

2. Other members of a household which includes a person who has been declared ineligible for temporary assistance for needy families assistance shall, if otherwise eligible, continue to receive temporary assistance for needy families benefits as protective or vendor payments to a third-party payee for the benefit of the members of the household.

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

15 **3. Any person who, in good faith, reports a suspected violation of this section by a**
16 **TANF recipient shall not be held civilly or criminally liable for reporting such suspected**
17 **violation.**

18 **4. The department of social services shall promulgate rules to develop the screening**
19 **provisions of this section. Any rule or portion of a rule, as that term is defined in section**
20 **536.010, that is created under the authority delegated in this section shall become effective**
21 **only if it complies with and is subject to all of the provisions of chapter 536 and, if**
22 **applicable, section 536.028. This section and chapter 536 are nonseverable and if any of the**
23 **powers vested with the general assembly pursuant to chapter 536 to review, to delay the**
24 **effective date, or to disapprove and annul a rule are subsequently held unconstitutional,**
25 **then the grant of rulemaking authority and any rule proposed or adopted after August 28,**
26 **2012, shall be invalid and void.**

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